

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

ACDA-05 IO-11 /076 W

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R 281540Z JAN 76

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1912

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0155

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GW, GE, UR,FR,UK,US

SUBJECT: FRENCH AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS ON QA AND  
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

REFS: A) USBERLIN 142 NOTAL, B) USBERLIN 131,  
C) USBERLIN 133

1. SUMMARY: FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO FRG WORMSER TOOK  
OCCASION OF JAN. 22 VISIT TO BERLIN'S ANNUAL AGRICUL-  
TURAL FAIR " GREEN WEEK" TO HINT AT POSSIBLE TOUGHER  
FRENCH LINE ON STRICT CONSTRUCTION OF QUADRIPARTITE  
AGREEMENT VISA A VIS GERMANS(REF A). HE ALSO APPEARED  
TO DISTANCE HIMSELF SLIGHTLY FROM RECENT COMMENTS OF  
BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTER ON SELECTION OF BERLIN  
REPRESENTATIVES TO EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT. WORMSER'S  
COMMENTS APPERARED IN PRESS ALONGSIDE LATEST EXCHANGE  
OF CHARGES AND COUNTER-CHARGES FROM SOVIET PRESS AND  
SENAT SPOKESMEN ON FRG PRESENCE IN CITY. END SUMMARY.

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2. WORMSER TOLD PRESS CONFERENCE FRANCE WOULD CONTINUE

TO BASE BERLIN POLICY ON QA AND THAT APPLICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENT REQUIRED THREE WESTERN ALLIES AS WELL AS FRG AND SENAT TO ACT TOGETHER. HE DECLINED TO CHARACTERIZE SOVIET POSITION AS DEMONSTRATING NEW HARDNESS, HOWEVER, SAYING THAT SOVIETS ALSO SUPPORT QA BUT " THERE ARE TIMES WHEN ONE SIDE TRIES TO READ INTO QA MORE AND THE OTHER SIDE LESS THAN IS THERE." WORMSER EMPHASIZED THAT IT WAS NECESSARY FOR WESTERN SIDE TO STEER A CAREFULLY THOUGHT OUT AND SECURE COURSE FOR APPLICATION OF AGREEMENT INDEPENDENT FROM TACTICALLY MOTIVATED VARIATIONS AND SPECULATION ABOUT SOVIET MOTIVATION, IMPLICATION OF AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS APPEARED TO BE THAT WEST, LIKE SOVIETS, SHOULD NOT PUSH INTO WHAT FRENCH (PARTICULARLY SAUVAGNARGUES) HAVE OFTEN CALLED " GREY AREAS" OF QA.

3. WORMSER EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT SOLUTION WOULD BE FOUND THAT WOULD ENSURE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF BERLIN REPRESENTATIVES IN EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AFTER THAT BODY IS DIRECTLY ELECTED. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT FRANCE IS CONVINCED THAT BERLIN REPRESENTATIVES MUST BE SELECTED BY INDIRECT METHOD LIKE THAT PURSUANT TO WHICH THEY ARE CHOSEN FOR BUNDESTAG AND THAT A "GENERAL AND DIRECT" ELECTION OF BERLIN'S REPRESENTATIVES WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.

4. BY SO SAYING WORMSER APPEARED TO TAKE SLIGHTLY MORE RESTRICTIVE LINE THAN BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTER CALLAGHAN WHO HAD SAID DURING VISIT TO CITY PREVIOUS WEEK ONLY THAT "QA REQUIRES THAT SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT ELECTORAL PROCEDURE BE FOLLOWED FOR BERLIN(REF B)." WORMSER'S COMMENTS WOULD SEEM TO PLACE FRENCH SQUARELY IN FAVOR OF SELECTION OF BERLIN REPS BY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OR AT MOST BY BUNDESTAG WITHOUT LEAVING DOOR OPEN TO SOME SORT OF UNIQUE BERLIN PROCEDURE THAT WOULD NONETHELESS PERMIT BERLIN VOTERS TO EXPRESS THEIR WISHES.

5. BERLIN PRESS HAS CARRIED WIRE SERVICE REPORTS JANUARY 27-28 ON PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA COMPLAINING ABOUT CALLAGHAN REMARKS AND ABOUT FRG PARTICIPATION IN GREEN CONFIDENTIAL

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WEEK. ACCORDING TO DPA, PRAVDA LABELLED CALLAGHAN'S REMARKS SUGGESTING SOME MANNER OF BERLIN PARTICIPATION IN DIRECT ELECTIONS TO EC PARLIAMENT AS IMPLYING " FLAGRANT VIOLATION" OF QA SINCE CITY " BELONGS" NEITHER TO FRG NOR TO EC. DPA ALSO CITED SOVIET PRESS CRITICISM OF FRG ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH ANNUAL GREEN WEEK AS REFLECTING " WELL-KNOWN DANGEROUS VIRUS OF POLITICAL SICKNESS FROM COLD WAR PERIOD, FRG'S

GREAT ILLUSION THAT ITS STATE EXTENDS FROM RHEIN TO SPREE."

6. SENAT PRESS SPOKESMAN ISSUED ROUTINE REBUTTAL OF SOVIET PRESS COMPLAINTS SAYING THAT " NATURALLY" CITY IS PART OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY " WHOSE MEMBERS ARE PRESENTLY HOLDING MEETINGS IN BERLIN IN CONNECTION WITH GREEN WEEK." SENAT SPOKESMAN ALSO SAID THAT ALL PARTNERS IN EC WOULD WELCOME IT WERE EAST BLOC TO END " ITS SELF-ISOLATION FROM EUROPE'S GREATERST AGRICULTURAL FAIR IN BERLIN AND THEREBY ALSO PERMIT THE SPIRIT OF HELSINKI TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE IN BERLIN."

7. COMMENT: CHARGE AND COUNTER-CHARGE BY SOVIET PRESS AND SENAT IS FAMILIAR SIDE-SHOW OF GREEN WEEK FAIR, AND RECENT STATEMENTS DO NOT APPEAR TO GO BEYOND TRADITIONAL LEVEL. WORMSER COMMENTS, IN JUXTAPOSITION AS THEY ARE NOT ONLY TO SOVIET STATEMENTS BUT ALSO TO CALLAGHAN COMMENTS, SUGGEST, HOWEVER, THAT FRENCH MAY BE LESS SHY IN FUTURE ABOUT TAKING "EVEN-HANDED" POSITION ON BERLIN ISSUES WHERE IN FACT THEY WOULD BE SETTING THEMSELVES AGAINST BONN'S WISHES. WE HAVE ALREADY NOTED IN CONNECTION WITH CURRENT ALLIED DISCUSSIONS ON POSSIBLE FRG PROSECUTION OF LORENZ KIDNAPPERS IN BERLIN, FOR EXAMPLE, TENDENCY OF FRENCH TO SEE ULTERIOR MAOTIVES IN GERMAN POSITION AND TO ARGUE THAT WHILE SUCH A PROSECUTION MAIGHT BE PREFECTLY LEGAL AND EVEN HAVE POST-QA PRECEDENT FRG SHOULD GO SLOW LEST SOVIETS RESPOND BY PUSHING THEIR POSITION ON ANOTHER ASPECT OF QA.GEORGE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BERLIN QUADRIpartite MATTERS, PRESS CONFERENCES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976USBERL00155  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 76 USBERLIN 142, 76 USBERLIN 131  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <15 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS ON QA AND PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE, GC, UR, FR, UK, US, (WORMSER)  
**To:** BONN  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006